

ture. It may be disturbed by any temporary exceptional cause such as some peculiarity of the orbits of the sun, moon, or planets, a change in the solar energy, or a loss of transparency of the atmosphere on account of dust or carbonic-acid gas, an accumulation of ice in the polar region, or a recession of the glaciers of lower latitudes, and so on, when the temporary cause is removed and the conditions are restored to normal (if that be possible) the circulation will, in virtue of resilience, recover its normal condition; but it may oscillate about the normal in some period or periods of its own before resuming the normal state. \* \* \* Both of these ideas are fully developed.

Chapter VIII, 35 pages, discusses the transitory variations of pressure cyclones and anticyclones, and that section is followed by a discussion of the structure of cyclonic depressions in which some of the newer views find place.

Finally Chapter X, 20 pages, on the earth's atmosphere brings to a close Sir Napier's exposition of the structure

of the earth's atmosphere, the general circulation, and its variations of long or short period. This chapter forms in his own words "the brass plate, bell pull, and knocker of the house which is to be represented by the remaining volumes."

No student of meteorology can afford to be without this manual.—A. J. H.

*February weather in the United States 50 years ago.*—The month was characterized by very low atmospheric pressure in Pacific Coast States and adjoining oceanic areas, the large number of rainstorms that came in from the Pacific, damaging floods in Pacific Coast States, dry weather east of the Rockies, high temperatures in the interior of the continent, and stormy weather in the Atlantic off the Virginia and North Carolina coast. A few tornadoes occurred in the Gulf States. On the whole, great diversity in the weather ruled.—A. J. H.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

C. FITZHUGH TALMAN, in Charge of Library

### RECENT ADDITIONS

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